

REMARKS

1. Present Status of Patent Application

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed January 12, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 10, and 19 have been amended in the present response. Support for the amendments may be found on at least pages 23-28 of the specification.

2. Response to Rejections of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Office Action alleges that “receiving logic, a database, assignment logic, and completion logic are just program per se” and are not physical components required for a system claim. Page 3. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines logic to be “the arrangement of circuit elements (as in a computer) needed for computation; *also*: the circuits themselves.” See <http://www.m-w.com/cgi-bin/dictionary?book=Dictionary&va=logic>. Further, a “database” has been defined to be “one component of a database management system.” See *Free On-line Dictionary of Computing* at <http://foldoc.org/?database>.

As such, the aforementioned terms are physical components of a system, in one embodiment, where the components may include physical circuitry and computer elements. Therefore, claims 1-9 comply with 35 U.S.C. § 101 and the rejection should be respectfully withdrawn.

3. Response to Rejections of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action, claims 1-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable by *Chauhan* (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0236620 A1). For a proper rejection of a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the cited reference must disclose all elements/features/steps of the claim. See, *e.g.*, *E.I. du Pont*

de Nemours & Co. v. Phillips Petroleum Co., 849 F.2d 1430, 7 USPQ2d 1129 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

a. Claim 1

As provided in independent claim 1, Applicants claim:

A drawing conversion management and assignment system, comprising:

receiving logic operable to receive notification of completion of a land base drawing file;

a database coupled to the receiving logic, operable to create a drawing conversion job record associated with the land base drawing file;

assignment logic coupled to the database, operable to assign the drawing conversion job record to a draftsman and to instruct the database to record the assignment, the drawing conversion job involving creation of a new drawing file based on information depicted in the land base drawing file; and

completion logic coupled to the database, operable to receive a request to close the drawing conversion job record from the draftsman, and to instruct the database to mark the drawing conversion job record as closed.

(Emphasis added).

Claim 1 is patentable over *Chauhan* for at least the reason that *Chauhan* fails to teach or suggest “assignment logic coupled to the database, operable to assign the drawing conversion job record to a draftsman and to instruct the database to record the assignment, the drawing conversion job involving creation of a new drawing file based on information depicted in the land base drawing file; and completion logic coupled to the database, operable to receive a request to close the drawing conversion job record from the draftsman, and to instruct the database to mark the drawing conversion job record as closed,” as emphasized above and recited in claim 1.

In contrast, *Chauhan* describes an “automated management system for managing data, outage repair, load switching, job workflow and crew dispatching, crew workflow, installation, maintenance and restoration of utility services by integrating geographic information systems (GIS) data with many other data sources so as to gather, transform, manipulate, analyze, and produce desired information for

continuously supplying utility and relevant services. The data sources include customer information systems (CIS) and billing data, interactive voice recognition (IVR) call management data, supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA), mobile crew management (MCM) data, automatic meter reading (AMR) data, automated vehicle location (AVL) data, engineering analysis data supported by 3rd party software packages (such as load monitoring and balancing), etc. In particular, the system allows an on-site engineer to retrieve data (ex. field maps, work orders, codes) or enter, via a portable device, inspection data (ex. such as poles or underground facilities, code violations).” Para. 0002 and see also para. 0081.

As such, *Chauhan* does not describe a drawing conversion management and assignment system where the system assigns a draftsman a drawing conversion job involving creating a new drawing file based on information depicted in a land base drawing file and closes the drawing conversion job at the request of the draftsman. Accordingly, *Chauhan* fails to teach or suggest “assignment logic coupled to the database, operable to assign the drawing conversion job record to a draftsman and to instruct the database to record the assignment, the drawing conversion job involving creation of a new drawing file based on information represented in the land base drawing file; and completion logic coupled to the database, operable to receive a request to close the drawing conversion job record from the draftsman, and to instruct the database to mark the drawing conversion job record as closed, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, *Chauhan* does not teach or suggest at least all of the claimed features of claim 1. Hence, claim 1 is not anticipated by *Chauhan*, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

b. Claims 2-9

For at least the reasons given above, claim 1 is allowable over the cited art of record. Since claims 2-9 depend from claim 1 and recite additional features, claims 2-9 are allowable as a matter of law over the cited art.

c. Claim 10

As provided in independent claim 10, Applicants claim:

A method for assigning and managing drawing conversions, comprising:

receiving notification that a land base drawing file is available, the land base drawing file being associated with a wirecenter;

creating a drawing conversion job record associated with the land base drawing file, the drawing conversion job involving creation of a new drawing file based on information depicted in the land base drawing file;

storing the drawing conversion job record in a database;
assigning the drawing conversion job record to a draftsman;
recording the assignment of the drawing conversion job record in the database; and

closing the job upon receipt of a close request from the draftsman, by marking the drawing conversion job record as closed in the database.

(Emphasis added).

Claim 10 is patentable over *Chauhan* for at least the reason that *Chauhan* fails to teach or suggest “receiving notification that a land base drawing file is available, the land base drawing file being associated with a wirecenter; creating a drawing conversion job record associated with the land base drawing file, the drawing conversion job involving creation of a new drawing file based on information depicted in the land base drawing file . . . and closing the job upon receipt of a close request from the draftsman, by marking the drawing conversion job record as closed in the database,” as emphasized above and recited in claim 10.

In contrast, *Chauhan* describes an “automated management system for managing data, outage repair, load switching, job workflow and crew dispatching, crew workflow, installation, maintenance and restoration of utility services by integrating geographic information systems (GIS) data with many other data sources so as to gather, transform, manipulate, analyze, and produce desired information for continuously supplying utility and relevant services. The data sources include customer information systems (CIS) and billing data, interactive voice recognition (IVR) call management data, supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA), mobile crew

management (MCM) data, automatic meter reading (AMR) data, automated vehicle location (AVL) data, engineering analysis data supported by 3rd party software packages (such as load monitoring and balancing), etc. In particular, the system allows an on-site engineer to retrieve data (ex. field maps, work orders, codes) or enter, via a portable device, inspection data (ex. such as poles or underground facilities, code violations).” Para. 0002 and see also para. 0081.

As such, *Chauhan* does not describe a drawing conversion management and assignment system where the system assigns a draftsman a drawing conversion job involving creating a new drawing file based on information depicted in a land base drawing file and closes the drawing conversion job at the request of the draftsman. Accordingly, *Chauhan* fails to teach or suggest “receiving notification that a land base drawing file is available, the land base drawing file being associated with a wirecenter; creating a drawing conversion job record associated with the land base drawing file, the drawing conversion job involving creation of a new drawing file based on information depicted in the land base drawing file . . . and closing the job upon receipt of a close request from the draftsman, by marking the drawing conversion job record as closed in the database, as recited in claim 10.

Therefore, *Chauhan* does not teach or suggest at least all of the claimed features of claim 10. Hence, claim 10 is not anticipated by *Chauhan*, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

d. Claims 11-18

For at least the reasons given above, claim 10 is allowable over the cited art of record. Since claims 11-18 depend from claim 10 and recite additional features, claims 11-18 are allowable as a matter of law over the cited art.

e. Claim 19

As provided in independent claim 19, Applicants claim:

A computer readable medium having a program for assigning and managing drawing conversions, the program comprising:

receiving notification that a land base drawing file is available, the land base drawing file being associated with a wirecenter;

creating a drawing conversion job record associated with the land base drawing file, the drawing conversion job involving creation of a new drawing file based on information depicted in the land base drawing file;

storing the drawing conversion job record in a database;
assigning the drawing conversion job record to a draftsman;
recording the assignment of the drawing conversion job record in the database; and

closing the job upon receipt of a close request from the draftsman, by marking the drawing conversion job record as closed in the database.

(Emphasis added).

Claim 19 is patentable over *Chauhan* for at least the reason that *Chauhan* fails to teach or suggest “receiving notification that a land base drawing file is available, the land base drawing file being associated with a wirecenter; creating a drawing conversion job record associated with the land base drawing file, the drawing conversion job involving creation of a new drawing file based on information depicted in the land base drawing file . . . and closing the job upon receipt of a close request from the draftsman, by marking the drawing conversion job record as closed in the database,” as emphasized above and recited in claim 19.

In contrast, *Chauhan* describes an “automated management system for managing data, outage repair, load switching, job workflow and crew dispatching, crew workflow, installation, maintenance and restoration of utility services by integrating geographic information systems (GIS) data with many other data sources so as to gather, transform, manipulate, analyze, and produce desired information for continuously supplying utility and relevant services. The data sources include customer information systems (CIS) and billing data, interactive voice recognition (IVR) call management data, supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA), mobile crew

management (MCM) data, automatic meter reading (AMR) data, automated vehicle location (AVL) data, engineering analysis data supported by 3rd party software packages (such as load monitoring and balancing), etc. In particular, the system allows an on-site engineer to retrieve data (ex. field maps, work orders, codes) or enter, via a portable device, inspection data (ex. such as poles or underground facilities, code violations).” Para. 0002 and see also para. 0081.

As such, *Chauhan* does not describe a drawing conversion management and assignment system where the system assigns a draftsman a drawing conversion job involving creating a new drawing file based on information depicted in a land base drawing file and closes the drawing conversion job at the request of the draftsman. Accordingly, *Chauhan* fails to teach or suggest “receiving notification that a land base drawing file is available, the land base drawing file being associated with a wirecenter; creating a drawing conversion job record associated with the land base drawing file, the drawing conversion job involving creation of a new drawing file based on information depicted in the land base drawing file . . . and closing the job upon receipt of a close request from the draftsman, by marking the drawing conversion job record as closed in the database, as recited in claim 19.

Therefore, *Chauhan* does not teach or suggest at least all of the claimed features of claim 19. Hence, claim 19 is not anticipated by *Chauhan*, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

f. Claims 20-27

For at least the reasons given above, claim 19 is allowable over the cited art of record. Since claims 20-27 depend from claim 19 and recite additional features, claims 20-27 are allowable as a matter of law over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

Any other statements in the Office Action that are not explicitly addressed herein are not intended to be admitted. In addition, any and all findings of inherency are traversed as not having been shown to be necessarily present. Furthermore, any and all findings of well-known art and official notice, or statements interpreted similarly, should not be considered well known for at least the specific and particular reason that the Office Action does not include specific factual findings predicated on sound technical and scientific reasoning to support such conclusions.

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. In addition, Applicants reserve the right to address any comments made in the Office Action that were not specifically addressed herein. Thus, such comments should not be deemed admitted by the Applicants. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles W. Griggers, Reg. No. 47,283

**THOMAS, KAYDEN,
HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, L.L.P.**
Suite 1750
100 Galleria Parkway N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
(770) 933-9500